

**Remarks/Arguments:**

Claims 1-23 are amended and claim 24 is newly added to better conform to U.S. practice. No new matter is added. Applicants respectfully request that the amended claims be entered and examined.

Respectfully submitted,

RatnerPrestia

  
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Jacques L. Etkowicz, Reg. No. 41,738  
Attorney for Applicants

JLE/kpc

Attachment: Abstract

Dated: January 9, 2006

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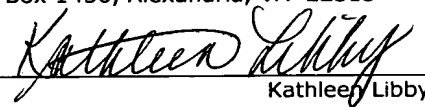
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Kathleen Libby